there are ornamental objects shells and other materials that are occasionally put on. 301

The islanders wear a twofold ornament as war decoration. First the head is decorated with a plume made of white and yellow cockatoo feathers. Then [20] the warrior hangs a bunch of red and yellow-colored leaf strips around his neck and arranges it in such a way that it hangs down his back. In Buka this ornament is called kehala; it is made of strips of dried palm leaves approximately 50 centimeters long which are firmly fastened together at one end to form a round button, to which the cord that is put around the neck is attached. The strips that hang down loose are dyed red for a distance of about 10 centimeters from the button; then there is a section of about 10 centimeters which is left its original color; the remainder--about 30 centimeters--is again dyed red. This dye pattern, however, is not constant, even though it is the one that occurs by far the most frequently; it seems to be adjusted to the taste of the individual; but the red color is never missing. The kehala is a talisman that is supposed to protect one from being wounded in war, and it corresponds to the actual war ornament of the Admiralty Islanders, which consists of a human bone that is tightly wound with the pinions of the frigate bird. 301 74 [78] [171]

The men pierce the septum of the nose and insert a plug of polished tridacna shell through the opening. This plug, called huin in Buka, varies in length and thickness; I have seen some 13 centimeters in length and 1 centimeter in diameter. Both ends of the carefully smoothed and rounded huin are pointed. 301 [304]

Earrings are not frequent, but here and there the young men wear ear ornaments (hakoto in Buka) made of white snail shells and differing in form and arrangement. Normally 3 to 10 white snail shells are sewed on each side of a straight little piece of wood, and a single snail finishes off the row at the lower end; sometimes the wood is bent or broken and sewed only on one side with snail shells; normally a red-dyed strip of rattan is fastened lengthwise over the wood to conceal the threads with which the snails are attached.

Chest ornaments are likewise not common; apart from the now very fashionable European beads I observed two different breast plates that are similar in form. Both consist of a circular plate of polished tridachna shell. One type is decorated by placing on it a thin plate of tortoise shell with filigree work; in Buka it is called gulu, and it is identical with the same ornament in the Admiralty Islands, in New Mecklenburg, and in the southern Solomon Islands, although it does not reach by far the refinement of the 301 171